movement had been suspended at his instance. And so little were Gen. Halleck and the Secretary War enlightened as to the true state of the facis

at they urged the President to dismiss the two chicers on whose information he had acted, as though the President, after he had made their opinions his own, could honorably punish them for giving him counsel which he had judged to be more reliable than that of all his other advisers put together. For he acted on the advice of Generals Cochrane and Newton, without thinking it necessary to take either Gen. Burnside or Gen Halleck or the Secretary of War into his confidence. The

President doubtless knew how much the opinions A Gen. Halleck were worth in deciding a military uestion, but while the latter held the post of Geeral-in-Chief he should have been treated with the orms of respect due to his office.

A few weeks later and Gen. Burnside resigned his command. Gen. Hooker was appointed to sucseed him-the same Gen. Hooker who, when asked by the Congressional Committee on the Conmander." The President, having tried in Gen. Barnside a man who had no confidence in himself, seems to have thought that it would be wise to try in Gen. Hooker a man who had no confidence in any body but himself. So Gen. Hooker was placed in command of the Army of the Potomac, though at that very time he was resting under charges from Gen. Burnside calling for his immediate dismissal from the army of the United tained his commander in some recent movements which Gen. Burnside had directed. When Gen.

'ope made representations to the effect that he had ot been properly and loyally sustained by Gen. itz John Porter, the latter was subsequently relieved of his command and put on trial, which remulted in his dismissal from the army. When General Burnside made similar representations against General Hooker, and even called for his summary dismissal without trial, not only was Gen. Hooker not dismissed the service, but his accuser was relieved from command; not only was Gen. Hooker not relieved from command, but he was not even placed on trial; and not only was he not placed on trial, but he received a new proof promoted to take his place.

How poorly Gen. Hooker justified the favoritism "nnock in the opening days of May, 1863, with hundred and fifty thousand men, he was deated by Gen. Lee with forty-nine thousand, and, river to find shelter in the entrenchments which dinary conduct. he had left but a few days before.

Then ensued a long delay before Fredericksburg-at least it would have been called so nder General McClellan, but it was not noticed under General Hooker-during which Geneal Lee, finding no enemy with courage enough to confront him at that point, betook himself by slow and easy marches to Pennsylvania, which he invaded in the summer of 1863. In the very crisis of this daring movement Gen. Hooker was removed from the command of the Army of the Potomac, the President holding, it seems, that the apothegm which points a moral against the expedieney of "swapping horses while crossing a stream has no application to Generals or to Cabinet officers, but is reserved exclusively for the benefit of a President "situated as he is circumstanced and circumstanced as he is situated." General Meade tok up the baton dropped by Gen. Hooker, and most worthily has he wielded it from the day when he repulsed the army of Lee at Gettysburg down to the present time.

# EX-PRESIDENT FILLMORE FOR MCCLELLAN.

From the following correspondence it will be seen that Ex-President MILLARD FILLMORE, a true patriot and a wise and just Prestdent, has pronounced emphatically in favor of the nominees of the Chicago Convention for President and Vice President of the United States:

BUFFALO, SEPTEMBER 28, 1864. DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 26th has this moment sh my letter to you of the 5th instant.

That letter, like all letters of mine, was intended to be ivate: not because it contained any sentiment which I shed to conceal, but simply because I had a great aver- history of that important event, that you may, if you will. a to appearing in the newspapers; but you seemed to do justice to all concerned nk its publication might do good to the conservative use-in which I confess I feel a very deep interest-andas I have received similar information from other sources. I have reluctantly come to the conclusion to permit it to be published.

The fact is, that I see no reasonable prospect of a reato. ration of this Union-the object nearest my heart-without a change of the avowed policy of this Administration! and I see no prospect of changing that policy but by a change of the Administration itself. Hence I am for a ange, and I look upon the election of Gev. McClellan as

last hope for the restoration of the Union, an honorable see, and the security of personal liberty; and this you sy publish to the world as my views on the pending crisis. But I shall enfer into no argument in support of my opinion, nor do I intend hereafter to depart from that silence which I impose upon myself from an unwillingness to mingle, or seem to miagle, in party politics; for I do not consider myself as belonging to any party, and I feel wholly indifferent to any party success as such, and am only anxious for the honor and welfare of my beloved but bleeding and suffering country.

I am, in great baste, truly yours,

MILLARD FILLMORE. F. H. CHURCHILL, Esq.

BUFFALO, SEPTEMBER 5, 1864. GENTLEMEN: Please to accept my thanks for the honor m have done me by inviting me to be present at a ratifi ation meeting to be held in Union Square on the 8th intant, and to address the meeting.

While I shall with great pleasure cast my vote for Gen. McClellan and Mr. Pendleton, yet I regard myself as wholly incomprehensible. withdrawn from party contests, and therefore I attend no political meetings, make no specches, and write no letters | War, which had held its session by order of Gen. McClel for publication.

With my best wishes for the success of your ticket-for on that, in my opinion, depends the salvation of our country- Council decided by a vote of eight to four-two to one-in I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

MILLARD FILLMORE. Messrs. F. H. Churchill, Henry W. Allen, Samuel Boardman, John P. Nagle, John Bulley, jr., John H. Decker,

Gen. Sickles has declined a nomination from the Union party of the Ninth district of New York for Congress, as he has determined to ignore politics until after the war.

SECRET AND IMPORTANT CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE WAR.

THE PENINSULAR CAMPAIGN

PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER 27, 1864.

To Hon. Wm. D. Kelley, Philadelphia. MY DEAR SIR: Our acquaintance and all of the rela tions that have ever existed between us are confined to two or three accidental meetings, at one of which you were pleased to refer to the lasting impression made upon you when a poor boy by the kindness of my father, who always took you by the hand and gave you cheering friendly words of encouragement and advice. You were pleased to acknowledge to the son the hind and valuable influences received by you from the father, and to proffer your friendly services whenever they would be acceptable.

Under the above circumstances you prepared for me and my friends no ordinary surprise when you deliberately composed, delivered, and published in the Press, of the 23d instant, a voluntary unprovoked attack upon me in the following words:

"It got out that the President was determined to have the army moved, and it was found that Gen. McClellan had no plan; and here I may state that we owe the Pe-ninsula campaign to those distinguished Senators, Latham of California, and Rice of Minnesota, and a brigadier in the column of Joseph Hooker. Gen. McClellan's plan was duct of the War why the campaign in the Virginia concected by others, and put into his hands. It was peninsula had failed, did not hesitate to ascribe that failure "to a want of generalship in the comhat failure "to a want of generalship in the comcourse of examination. One General, Blenker, owned that he did not understand the plan, but would sustain it as he thought he had to obey the mandates of his chi-f. Gen. Naglee was one of those present, and Stanton observed that he had but one star. 'Sir,' said Mr. Stanton you have no right here!' 'I am representing Gen Hooker,' said he. It was afterwards found out that Gen. Naglee was absent without leave, and that fighting Joe Hooker knew no hing of the council."

Now, my dear sir, this statement is simply false, and on the part of your friend, Mr. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary f War, maliciously false. The Peninsular campaign was not indicated by "Senators Latham of California, and Rice States, on the ground of not having faithfully sus- of Minnesota, and a Brigadier in the column of Joseph Hooker," as asserted by you. Gen. Naglee was at Washngton with proper leave, and with the full knowledge of Gea. Hooker, and was a member of the Council of War by direction of Gen. McClellan, to represent the division of the army at Budd's Ferry, in the absence of Gen. Hooker, who was too far removed from Washington to be present. And, unfortunately for the veracity of Mr. Stanton, the impertment remarks you ascribe to him could not have been made, for there were no officers of the Council of War en'itled at that time to more than one star.

Now, Judge, you know, or should know, that the reputation of Mr. Stanton for truth and veracity is not above suspicion, and that you may well believe any thing that may be said regarding his great incivility and rudeness, for, not excepting yourself, I have never seen or heard of an officer or civilian who did not condemn him for the utter want of all the requisites of a gentleman.

This is not the first time Mr. Stanton has been guilty of tration. It was the accuser in this case who was your gratification I will relate an instance that occurred custed from his command, while the accused saw upon my arrival in Washington, immediately after the conclusion of "the seven days' fight," in the beginning of July of 1862, and when I was surprised to learn that during the continuance of that desperate struggle, and during the thus shown him is read in the bloody record of the time of dreadful suspense, whilst nothing could be heard attle of Chancellorsville. Crossing the Rappa- of Gen McClellan and his gallant army, Mr. Stanton had ject to the order of Mr. Stanton. Whilst the above division every where denounced Gen. McClellan as a traitor to his of our army was taking place, the Confederates concencountry and as incapable of commanding a regiment. I learned this from a number of the members of Congress, ter deplorable losses, retreated across the same esgerly sought from me some explanation of such extraor-

I could render them no satisfaction, but reported the circumstances to Gen. McClellan upon my arrival at his headquarters on the following day, the 8th of July. His surprise, Judge, was greater than mine; without uttering a word, he turned to his portfolio, took from it a letter, which he placed before me, and said . " Read that; I have just received it from Mr. Stanton." With his consent, I made a copy of the letter, and, returning to Washington, placed it in the hands of those who had heard the denunciations of Mr. Stanton, and who had advised me of them. They desired to read it to the Senate, and to publish the outrage and the vindication, and they telegraphed to Gen. McCleilan for his permission, which he declined to give them. The following is a copy of the letter:

WAR DEPARTMENT but I and cailed to the country, where Mrs. Stanton is with her children, to see one of them die. I can therefore only say, my dear General, in this brief moment, that there is no cause in my heart or conduct for the cloud that wicked men have raised between us for their own base and selfish purposes. No man had ever a truer friend than I have een to you, and shall continue to be. You are seldom absent from my thoughts, and I am ready to make any sacrifice to aid you. Time allows me to say no more than that I pray Almighty God to deliver you and your army rom all peril, and lead you on to victory.

Yours, truly, EDWIN M. STANTON. Now, Judge, what think you of this man, who, made Secretary of War by the request and in strence of Gen. Mc-Cletlan, was vilifying and abusing and uttering falsehoods sgainst him, and who could at the same time sit down and deliberately write such a letter ?

You have referred to the Council of War held in Washngton in March of 1862. Every effort has been made, in vain, to bring the proceedings of that council before the public. A call was made for them in the House of Representatives, and was tabled by the Republican party. A request made by the Recorder of that Council, of Mr. Stanton, to allow him to have the proceedings made up in procome to hand, in which you request my permission to pub- per form, was refused in a most rude and insulting manner, and the papers have never been allowed to leave his possession since.

Now, Judge, for your especial benefit, I will relate the

Brig. Gen.	Sumner,	B	ig. Gen.	Keyes,
4.6	McDowell,		"	A. Porter.
44	Franklin,	A	44	W F Smith,
	F. J. Porter,		**	Barnard,
44	McCall,		64	Blenker,
44	Heintzelman,		- 61	Naglee.
h entitled	to but "one	star."	It was	called together
order of C	en. McClellan	on the	night of	March 7, 1869

to convene at 10 A. M. on the following day.

Gen. McClellan came into the Council room at the hour appointed, and, placing on the table a large map, explained his proposed Peninsular Campaign, which before this t me believe to have been known to no one present excepting Gen. Franklin and probably Fitz J Porter. Upon retiring he left upon the table, for the consideration of the council, the following inquiries:

I. Whether it is advisable that the base of operations shall be changed, the transportation being ready at Anna polis in all of next week II. Whether it is better to make an advance to the front

before changing the base, should such a change be deter-. 111 Whether a forward movement, with the object of destroying the river batteries, is advisable, and when i can be commenced, and whether the naval force, with the

assistance of the Kricsson battery, can alone accomplish that object. After a session of three hours the council were summoned to appear before the President. He advised them that he was quite unwell and exceedingly nervous, that the pressure had been intense against Gen. McClellan. He expressed himself gratified to have the opportunity to see | hundred thousand men unnecessarily and wickedly sacri | tinued to occupy the works they had captured. them in regard to army matters, which were to him very

I informed him that, as Recorder of the Council o lan, I would advice him of the result of its proceedings, and then read them to him. "What," said he, "have the favor of the Peninsular campaign?" He then asked many questions in regard to the same, until Mr. Stanton came in, and I proposed to read the proceedings to him. He re-Plied, "Give me the papers, I'll read them myself," and, after reading them over and preparing his notes, he, as you say, "put them (the council) through the strict course of be respected, and had army officers only been held respon- right of the highteenth Corps with bayonets, and succeeded

of the Council of War on the mind of the President, and | Why have McClellan, and Sedgwick, and McPherson, | Corps next carried the works on the right of the negroes, | There is plenty of good evidence that the rebels have before been able to comprehend.

fied with the interview, said he was impressed with the ed to do, but that he should make his campaign, as approvcouncil, and until after which time he desired that none of them should leave the city.

Before leaving the President, the Recorder of the Council approached the Secretary and said: "If you please, Mr. Stanton, permit me to have the proceedings of the Council of War, that they may be copied in a fair hand, and of McClellan and his friends, and overlook the volumes of in proper form." "I'm just as good a judge of the form as you are," was the reply of your friend. Other incivili

On the following morning, at the appointed hour, when all of the officers of the Council of War had assembled, Mr. Lincoln said: "I have slept better than for two weeks. I feel relieved of an immense responsibility. I have determined upon the following programme, which he submitted verbally, and which was substantially as follows:

"I will permit Gen. McClellan to carry out his cam paign. He shall leave sufficient force to defend the works before Washington He shall embark fif y thousand men from Annapolis, and then, unless the batteries on the Potomae, which you assure me will necessarily be abauden ed, are withdrawn or silenced, I shall reserve my authority to embark other troops." He then said, "I have deter-mined to divide Gen. McClellan's army into four corps, and I shall appoint the commanders of them.

And afterwards he promoted the four officers who had oposed Gen. McCl llan's campaign, three of whom he appointed to the command of corps, and, with the exception of Gens. Franklin and Smith, who have been the subjects of constant annoyance and indignities since, the others have all been dismissed from the army.

The Peninsular campaign was proposed by Gen. Mc Clellan whilst commander-in-chief of the armies of the United States, and was intended to be made with the forces then under his command in Eastern Virginia, estimated at over 200,000 men. It was so accepted by the President, and the movement was commenced upon that basis. Gen of the confidence reposed in him by the Adminis- the most deliberate malicious misrepresentation, and for McClellan had scarcely left Washington to take the field when the Secretary of War relieved him of all the armies not under his, Gen. McClellan's, immediate command, and assumed command of them himself. The troops left in Northeastern Virginia were placed under the command of McDowell, Banks, Fremont, and Sigel, each being inde pendent of the other, and of Gen McClellan, and all subtrated theirs, until, on the 26th day of June, Gen McClel lan found himself before Richmond with 85,000 men, (inwho were astonished and confounded, and who with pain cluding McCall's division,) and was attacked by the concentrated Confederate force of 175,000 at the very moment when McDowell, under protest, withdrew his assistance from McCiellan, by the orders of the President and Secre-

> The campaign under Gen. Grant did not commence untithe 4th of May, 1864 That of Chancellorsville, in which the casualties of that army were estimated at thirty thousand men, and which, but for the Providential killing of Stonewall Jackson, would have been annihilated, was planned by the President and Gen. Hooker, or, to use the President's own words, by "Joe and I," of which the Secretary of War and Gen. Halleck were kept profoundly ignorant, and was not commenced until May 2,1863; whilet that of the Peninsula, for the delay of which Gen. McClellan was so much censured, was commenced on the 25th of March, 1862, forty days in advance of either of the others

Why this bitter enmity and persecution of Gen. Mc-Was Department,

Washington, July 5, 1862.

Major Gen. McClellan. Dear General: I had a talk dent pressed to death to remove him, even before he had made his first trial in command of the Army of the Potothe 17th of March write to me :

"The cry against McClellan is increasing; every effort s being made to crush him. What possible chance has Gen. McC ellan to succeed when his own Government did every thing in their power to embarraes his movements and break him down? One would think his task sufficiently onerous, laborious, and responsible, when without experience, after the first disastrons rout at Bull Rug, he reorganized the armies of the United States and was preparing to fight them, without the additional conviction being forced upon him at every step that his own

J dge, you and I met within ten days after the dreadful with a bitterness and feeling that ill becomes a Christian gentleman. I then begged you not to break down Gen. McClellan until you had given him a fair trial, and until you had found a better man, and challenged you to name better General. I now do the same thing, and appeal to the record of the past thirty months, and to the rivers of blood that have flown since, to sustain what I then asserted. I refer you to the opinions of foreign officers and I assure you that among the old officers of the army I shall be fully sustained.

The preference of Gen. McClellan for the peninsula campaign and the condemnation of the President's plan have been fully sustained. The families and friends of the one hundred and thirty thousand men lost south of the where. Mr. Stanton told the country at that time he had a hundred thousand men more than he wanted, and now he tells you he wants a hundred thousand more men.

Gen. Grant crossed the Rapid-Ann with an army va He was reinforced..... 45,000 Making, exclusive of Sigel's 30,000 ..... 205 000

On the lat of September our forces were estimated, exclusive of Sheridan's 30,000, at ..... Gen. Lee had on the Rapid Ann, after he had con-forces from the South, which, with those near Petersburg, amounted to ..... 30,000

Making in all...... 155,000 On the 1st of September his forces were estimated, at Richmond, at ..... Exclusive of Early's command.....

Judge Kelley, were the records of the Council of War and know the officers of the army, and to be instructed by fixed south of the Rapid-Ann, in the experiment made to grong and that the President's plan was right?

The army of the United States, as you found it at the thirty years in the service of their country and had never ment. voted. They held their country and the honor and integrity of it before every other consideration. Had a rule been adopted requiring that no political subject should be introduced into the army, but that all political rights should examination" which you refer to. This examination, made sible for the conduct of the war, it would have terminated for the purpose of neutralizing the effect of the decision long ago.

thus to carry out the objects of those who had been insist- and Bayard, and Franklin, and Buell, and Meade, and Av- thus giving us the entire outer line of rebel defences on promised themselves a dash into the city. All their moveing upon the removal of Gen. McClellan, lasted for four or erill, and Porter, and a score of other general officers, with this side of Richmond. On the left of the Teuth Corps ments since they arrived east of Pilot Kaob have been five hours, during which time it was only interrupted by hundreds, if not thousands, of officers of an inferior grade, Foster's division came up rapidly and charged twice on the directed to getting between the city and Gen. A. J. Smith's an occasional expression of the President, indicating his been offended and held back, and many of them dismissed satisfaction and gratification at the many explanations of from the army without a word of explanation, an arbitrary a lodgment within them; though they maintained the road and burned the South Big river bridge on Tuesday. military movements contemplated, and which he had not actunknown in Great Britain, whilst Pope, and Burnside, and Hooker, and Butler, and Hunter, and Banks, and It was now getting dark. Mr. Stanton's questions indi- Sigel, and Sickles, and hundreds of others, certainly no cated approaching exhaustion, and finding there was a better than the former, have been preferred? Why was line of works from about a mile and a half from the river silence which called for a cessation of hostilities on his part | Gen Stone, than whom there is not a more loyal man, and for the night, Mr. Lincoln expressed himself highly graticonfined in prison fifteen months? And when released by earnestness and intelligence of the officers present, and an act of Congress, why was it that neither the President, that he had every confidence in them He was now de- nor Secretary of War, nor Secretary of State, nor other termined not to remove Gen. McClellan, as he had promis- persons at Washington would assent to any knowledge or any participation in the arrest? Such outrages are calcued by the Council of War, under restrictions, which he lated to break down the honor and esprit de corps of any of the Eighteenth Corps, where the second division was to destroy the zaffroad bridge over the Meramee at Moselle. army, and all have looked on with disgust and horror and when he desired the presence of all of the officers of the pain at the sham ful injustice and outrages that have been continually heaped upon so many of their old friends and comrades in arms, whom they know incapable of an ungentlemanly, dishonorable, unsoldierly, or disloyal act.

Why did the Committee on the Conduct of the War inrestigate and falsify with such nice precision the conduct General Sumner, the President of the Council, will sign charges filed in the War Department against Fremont, them, the Recorder will sign them, and they will then be and Sigel, and Hunter, and others, and entirely overlook the immense slaughter at Chancellorsville and Fredericks burg and south of the Rapid-Ann? Why did a secret poties have been attempted by Mr. Stanton towards me, the litical inquisition, with no other pretext than that they manner and result of which he has neither forgotten nor suspected him of political ambition, sit over five hundred forgiven, and which he may relate to you whenever he days and manufacture over seventeen bundred pages of ex large number of their dead are still lying on the field parte testimony sgainst a young officer, a Christian gen- to-day. tleman, an honest man, who, Heaven only knows, never had but one purpose, and that to serve his country and his God? You know, Judge, that whilst in Washington Gen. Mc-

Ciellan studiously avoided all political association, and to such an extent that many of his friends of both parties were much offended. The first knowledge that I ever had of any political ambition on his part was after he had been ed with heavy guns, the capture of which, if attempted, retired from active service and sent in disgrace to New Jersey; and this was after his fitness for the succession signified their affection for him. His letters and orders have been called political, but they were eminently proper and refer entirely to the military policy of the country. But, Judge, suppose that we admit that Gen. McClellan had an ambition to be President of the United States, was it not a laudable ambition, and is there any impropriety in it? Is the field not open to him as well as to Mr. Lincoln or Mr. Fremont, or Mr. Chase, or the many others infinitely his inferiors? So far as the objections to his minitary qualifications are concerned, we have only to remind you that, within the last sixty days, a confidential friend of the President was sent to offer him one of the most important commands of the army. But this proposition was coupled with the most dishonorable condition that he should decline to be a candidate for the Presidency. Gen. McCleljan restrained his indignation and replied to the bearer of the massage, "Go back to Washington, and say to the President for me, that when I receive my official written or ders he shall have my answer."

with all that dwells upon it than see our nationality destroyed; who will not endure this constant usurpation of authority and encroachment upon their rights; and whom | slong the tionist and he negro may find themselves arrayed against all who will unitedly stand, hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder, in defence of the Constitution and the fundamental laws of the land. Very respectfully

HENRY M. NAGLEE.

#### THE OPERATIONS AGAINST RICHMOND.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF POTOMAC, OCT. 1. The long contemplated and earnestly hoped for "on to Richmond" of the Army of the Potomac has at length teen commended, and the progress made on the right carries us within about six miles of that devoted city, while our left has been flung around and now flacks Petersburg on the west, approaching to within a short distance of the on the west, approaching to within a short distance of the Southside railroad.

been occupying the front against Petersburg, on the south | for the works commenced. The enemy lost a long line side of the Appomattox, quietly withdrawing from its position and maying on Wednesday night last, under cover of darkness, to the north side of the James river at Deep holding this line with a very slim guard. mac? Why did a distinguished member of the Senate on Bottom, the Eighteenth Corps having meanwhile crossed at Riker's Landing. After crossing the river the Tenth Corps, Major Geq. Birney commanding, moved up the New Market road, and the Eighteer th up the Varina road, intending to form a junction where these roads intersect in front of the rebel works, about seven miles from Richmond, where they would form a line of battle, with the Eighteenth Corps on the left and the Tenth Corps on the right Kautz's cavalry division, who also had a part to the exception of an attack by Hampton's cavalry on Gen. perform in the grand drama about to be enacted, after scouring the country in front of the two corps, took its position on the left flank, and moved forward along the Darbattles before Richmond. You attacked Gen. McClellan bytown road, thus effectually providing against any possibility of a sortie and flank attack on that side, while the right flank was equally well protected by the gunboats and

the river. Nothing opposed the onward movement of this force side of the Aiken's farm, when their skirmishers or advance guard met the rebel pickets. These formed but a slight obstruction, being speedily driven back and induced to seek she'ter behind the front line of rebel works, which commence at the river on Drury's Bluff and run north. wardly some three miles, when they bear westward y until they connect with the line which forms the northern de fences of Richmond.

The portion of this line nearest the river and in front of Rapid-Ann since the 4th of May last proclaim it every the Eighteenth Corps is described as being very strong with four redoubts at apprepriate intervals and defended by a small force well provided with artillery of various calibre. That portion in front of the Eighteenth Corps was nothing more than rifle-pits, defended only by infantry. riously estimated at from one hundred and eighty thou- but these were in pretty strong force, and the rebels no to occur.

About eight o'clock yesterday morning the Eighteenth Corps having approached to within about half a mile of the robel work emerged from the woods and charged across a field. The first division, which was in the centre, 85,000 succeeded in driving the rebels from a portion of the works in their front, and not only captured the works, but took sixteen guns from the enemy, five of which were heavy siege guns. This division also suffered severely in killed and wounded; losing in the aggregate about five hundred men killed, wounded, and missing. The second division of the Eighteenth Corps, which was on the left near the James river, also charged upon and succeeded in carrying the works, but found it impracticable to hold all the lines, as that nearest the river was exposed to an en-Showing the discharges and less from Grant to be 150,000 filading fire from the rebel gunboats as well as to the fire of the second line of the enemy's works, to which their discomfitted forces had withdrawn. After and that of "the strict course of examination" made by gallantly striving for several hours to maintain their posi-Mr. Stanton, indicating the very difficulties and dreadful tion, their left was compelled to withdraw from that porlosses Gen. Grant has lately sustained, ever placed before tion of the line nearest the river, where they fell back to him? And why not? And who is responsible for the one the woods forming an angle with their right, which con-

At the angle where the two portions of the second divi prove that Gen. McClellau and the Council of War were sion joined, our army held one side of a redoubt and the rebels the opposite side, and the men on neither side dared show their heads above the parapets, lest they should beommencement of this war, was composed of a high-toned, come victims to the accurate aim of the enemy on the op intelligent, honorable, gallant set of men, fully equal to posite side. They still continued to occupy this position, the contest before them; they had always studiously and both parties are unwilling to abandon the work withavoided all political connections; many of them had been out another contest, which may be expected at any mo

While the Eighleenth Corps were performing the feats we have mentioned Gen. Payne's negro division of the Tenth Corps moved up the New Market road, and between

position they had gained on the first line.

The result of this fighting may be summed up in the statement that we gained possession of the enemy's outer that three thousand rebel cavalry have reached Richwood, opposite Drury's bluff to a point on the Central road near ly due nor heast from there, while Kautz's cavalry division military station after the withdrawal from Mineral Point, penetrated along the Central road to within two miles of

The object of the cavalry reconnoissance was to ascertain the rebel strength, and it is said that they found the But the report now current is that they have struck the compelled to retire from the rebel works, the rebel gun- But Price has evidently intended to try a dash into our boats were brought into requisition, and operated effective- city, if the chances favor it. The time when such a dash ly to protect their line against our assault.

the right of that corps, charged and succeeded in carrying mands, at the same time keeping up his attack on Pilot the rifle-pits of the rebels' outer line in their front with Koob. but little loss to themselves.

The heaviest loss incurred was in the second division of

The aggregate loss in the Tenth Corps is between 1,000 and 1,200, and in the Eighteenth between 800 and 1,000 200 were captured, 800 wounded, 600 killed, and the remainder not yet accounted for.

Behind the works captured the enemy have two very will require a long and arduous siege, and be attended no doubt with an immense sacrifice of life. Still, from the city, think that it is highly probable the General has been had been discovered by Mr. Liucoln, and the people had present disposition of our forces, it would seem that even these difficulties are not regarded as insurmountable, or as escaped to Harrison Station, where, at the latest accounts, being an insuperable obstacle against the approach of our

#### OPERATIONS OF THE LEFT WING.

IN THE FIELD BEFORE PETERSBURG.

The portion of the army to which I have recently been ttached, the left wing, had, pursuant to orders, b en in request was bandled about between Gens. Smith and readiness for several days to move against the enemy's works when the auspicious moment should arrive; in other words, when the troops which had crossed the James use his discretion, he immediately commenced the prepahad made the initiative attack. A reconnoissance on our front, in the direction of the Southside railroad, was made yesterday by Gregg's cavalry, which developed the fact that the enemy's picket posts were on the Vaughan road, their headquarters being at a little chapel known as Poplar Spring Church; lurther, that they had blockaded the road a short distance beyond the church at a point where it

enemy's position by different roads, the greater portion of Knob to the South Big River bridge. our line being obliged to swing around some miles to the left in order to evade the swamps on our right front. The only troops engaged were a portion of those which moved Vaughan road, comprising the Sixteenth Michiyou may drive into a dread ul conflict, in which the aboli- gan, the Forty-fourth New York, and the One hundred and Eighteenth Pennsylvania, under command of Col. Gwynn, of the latter regiment. The division to which they were attached, Gen. Ayres, found the enemy rather nearer our lines than they had been discovered by Gregg, but in small thus far have been made by cavalry. The only infantry force only. They were quickly driven back, following the road until they had passed the bayou of which I have spoken, when they passed to the right through an open ountry, where our attacking party arrived.

Here it was discovered that through this open space the nemy's works were thrown up. As they were built parallel with the road, it became necessary to change the front of our force so that it would face the position. The was quickly done, the enemy shelling them meanwhile from three or four small gups; then, with a cheer, away went our boys towards their adversaries' stronghold. double-quick of about one quarter of a mile, a leap across

about one hundred and twenty wounded. Col Weich, of the Sixteenth Michigan, was killed, and the Major of the This move was initiated by the Tenth Corps, which had regiment, Partridge, was badly wounded just as the charge of works, two forts, two pieces of artillery, and about as Centralia, by a gang of bushwhackers under the infamous many men as we did. We captured about fifty prisoners. Rell Anderson, whose cruelties upon Hain many in the captured about the prisoners. all dismounted cavalry. It is evident that the enemy were

# AN ATTACK ON OUR LEFT.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,

October 2, (Sunday ) The enemy attacked Gen. Ayer's division yesterday morning, and were repulsed with heavy loss. This was the only fighting which took place on the left yesterday, with Gregg, on the Vaughn road The enemy were driven b ck very slight. The enemy is now strongly entrenched and a battle may occur at any moment.

Our loss in Friday's fight is not yet definitely ascertained. but will not vary much from what was stated in yesterday's letter. The enemy claim to have captured a number of prisoners from the Ninth Corps on that day. Our troops until they were about entering the pine woods on the north | took some thirty prisoners yesterday, among whom is a lieutenant belonging to Gen. Bonham's staff.

A heavy rain has prevailed all day, and hindered move nents to a considerable extent.

#### THE ENEMY HAVE FALLEN BACK TO THEIR MAIN LINE OF WORKS

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

No fighting has occurred on this line to-day. The enemy fell brok this morning to their main line of works, which runs from the Lead Works to the Southeide road, or near it. This position is a very strong one, and cannot easily be

A division of the Second Corps advanced to the Boynton road, over which the enemy wagon their supplies to Petersburg. Two lines of works were found unoccupied, only a skirmish line opposing the advance, and falling back as our immediately withdrew his command, dismounting them, troops went forward. Near the Boynton road very formidable works were found, behind which the enemy were posted in heavy force. It was not deemed advisable to attack, and they fell back and occupy a safe position. They They had delivered but one volley when the guerrillas lost a few wounded in the advance.

Our loss on Friday was greater than at first stated. The total in killed, wounded, and prisoners will foot up not far Major Johnson, were killed in the very field where they from two thousand, more than half of whom were taken di-mounted. Ten others were found dead in the prairie prisoners. This occurred in consequence of a gap being left between a part of the Ninth and Fifth Corps, through to our latest advices had escaped which the enemy charged and flanked the second division of the Ninth Corps.

# THE REBELS IN MISSOURI.

Great Excitement Caused by the Rebel Invasion-Military Blunder-Renet Movements, &c.

> Correspondence of the New York Tribune. ST. LOUIS, SEPTEMBER 29, 1864.

Price's invasion has created a tremendous excitement in this city, caused by an apprehension that the rebels mean to flouk all our forces in the field if they can and make a dash on St Louis. The city is by no means in a state of siege; peop'e come and go as usual; the railroads to the East arrive and depart regularly : the steamboats the same, and no stranger is molested or made afraid on the street. Even the militia guards, which in former times demanded your pass or certificate of exemption on the corners, have not made their appearance. But business is suspended all stores closed, and organization of companies and regiments progressing rapidly. There are several thousand militia at Camp Sheridan (site of the former Camp Jackson.) a battery of artillery is frowning upon Lucas square in the and 10 o'clock charged on the enemy's rifle-pits on the city, the fife and drum is heard every where, and the scenes at headquarters are busy. All these indicate something in carrying the works, but not without a heavy loss to unusual, and among those who know nothing of the real themselves. Gen. Terrill's division of the Eighteenth situation there is really considerable alarm.

and then attacked our forces at Mineral Point. While these demonstrations were in progress, we sud enly hear a small town in Franklin county, a few miles directly west of De Soto. The latter place having become our principal it was feared this morning that the next move of the rebels would be to strike the Iron Mountain railroad north of De Soto, and then continue their march toward Carondelet might have been successful has passed, and Price will now The third division of the Eighteenth Corps, which had try and capture Rolls, where Gen. John McNeill com-

Gen Ewing continued to hold out at Pilot Knob at last accounts against overwhelming odds. All his forces are in the Eighteenth Corps, and in Payne's negro division of the fort, on the Arcadia road, while the rebels hold the the Tenth Corps. This latter division charged half a mile town. They were very indignant because they found no scross an open field without firing a shot, and carried the military stores in the place, and revenged themselves conrebel works at the point of the bayonet. As was to have sequently upon the hapless inhabitants. The fort held by been expected from the fact that they were so long ex Gen. Ewing mounts four columbiads, 62-pounders, and six posed to the rebel fire, th ir loss was very heavy, and a light field pieces. It is well supplied with provisions, ammunition, and water for a long siege, but the rebels have occupied Shepherd's Mountain, only one mile distant, which completely commands the inside of the fort, and they have got several pieces of artillery into position already. The in killed, wounded, and missing. Of this number about last report direct from Pilot Knob was to half-past twelve o'clock on Tuesday, when the rebels were shelling the fort quite vigorously; but Gen. Ewing's losses were light Parties who left the Big River Bridge yesterday state that strong lines, defended by double rows of abattis, and mount- heavy cannonading was heard as late as eleven o'clock yesterday. Under a full knowledge of the situation, several members of Gen Ewing's staff, who remain in the forced ere this to surrender. [He abandoned the fort and he was closely besieged. ]

By one of those unaccountable errors which now and then occur in military management, an order equivalent to an evacuation of Pilot Knob was given too late Gen. Ewing's first instructions were to hold the position. Knowing the dangers that soon environed h m, he asked for authority to abandon the place in a certain emergency. This Rosecraps until it was too late. When the matter was finally referred back to Gen. Ewing with instructions to rations to retire. All his commissary and quartermaster stores were loaded in three trains of cars, and the who's placed in charge of Capt. H. Garvens, Ewing's quartermaster. Capt. Garvens brought off the trains safely, but hardly crossed the South Big river bridge five minutes ere the rebels appeared and applied the torch. A telegraph ope-Beware, Judge, of the intemperate abuse of your politi-cal opponents, as proud and loyal as you are, who would from the works of the Fifth Corps and approached the rebels have entire possession of the railroad from Pilot rator smuggled out of Pilot Knob on Tuesday P M., and

A fight at Mineral Point, on the railroad, took place on Tuesday afternoon. A brigade of Gen. Smith's corps was attacked by the rebels. The attack was repulsed, but our forces subsequently withdrew to the North Big River bridge. The rebel loss was nearly fifty, our loss but seven. The attack was by cavalry. Indeed all their movements accompanying Price is used as an escort to a wagon train carrying supplies for the army.

The rebels have captured Potosi, one of the oldest settlements in the State and the county seat of Washington county. The attacking force numbered nearly six hundred, to resist whom there were thirty soldiers and one hundred and thirty armed citizens. The latter fled after the first fire, and the soldiers, save three, were captured and killed by the rebels. The county records and a large amount of valuable private property fell a victim to the

Decidedly the most horrible affair that has been recorded for many years is the atrocious massacre of soldiers. and citizens on the North Missouri railroad, at and pear Bill Anderson, whose cruelties upon Union men in Carroll Boone, Howard, and other counties, have been heretofore mentioned. This time Anderson even eclipsed the butcher Quantrell. His gang numbered about one hundred and seventy-five men. They had been chased out of Monroe county, and suddenly made their appearance at Cent alia, on the North Missouri railroad. The postmaster at Mexico, the next station, Mr. Jeff.ies, furnishes an account of what followed. He says:

" The citizens at first took them for the State militis. Shortly after their arrival a gravel construction train came slong, which was seized and stopped. A few minutes later the passenger train from St Louis arrived, which with considerable loss and some pri oners. Our loss was they also imm distrly seized. Three civilians, who made some resistance, were shot in the cars, and either killed or wounded, and were left on board. The other passengers, including between thirty and forty soldiers, were all ordered out of the cars and plundered of all their money and va'u bles. As soon as the stripping was completed the vile miscreants commenced firing upon their captives, the unarmed soldiers, some of whom attempted to casape by running into the houses and out into the fields, but were pursued and shot down like wild game. Twenty-four of h-se soldiers were thus butchered, seven of whom were f the First Iows ovvalry, stationed at Mexico, and ten of whom were discharged soldiers, veterans returning to their homes from Atlanta, after a faithful three y are and four months' service in the cause of their country, the four months being extra service, generously given by them to the Government After these men were thus hunted and sh t down their bodies were beaten, their heads cut off or backed with swords, and every possible indignity inflicted upon them. Mr Roland, express agent at Centralia, was also among the killed. The murderous work having been accom .habed, the torch was applied to the depot, and the train, containing the three wounded civilians, was fired and started on its way up the road. It ran about six miles when it stopped and was slowly consumed

The band then passed on, and in about one hour was followed by Major Johnson and his command. Two or beyond Centralia, in Boone county, on the farm of a Mr. Fullenweider, of this city, Anderson hid his men in the bushes, and awaited his pursuers. Major Johnson appreaching the ambush, was fired upon, rie and formed in line of battle. At this moment the guerril las bur-t from their hiding place with fi-ree yells and rapid firing. M.jor Johnson's horses took fright and left him and his men to wage the unequal contest on foot. were upon them, shooting, hacking, and slaying to the right and left. The militis made fled in all directions. Eighty-six of their number, including toward Centralia. Out of the whole command o one hundred and fifty men, twenty-five were all that up

The end is not yet. It is war to the knife. Price's triends have raised the black flag-let them abide the issue-the consequences are fearful-blood will flow like water, but flow it must.

# POSITION OF GEN. CASS.

From the beginning of the secession movement in the South, and during the whole course of the war, it is known that the venerable Gen Cass has most zealously sustained the cause of the Goverament against its armed enemies. It having been represented that this distinguished statesman had declared his intention to vote for Mr. Lincoln at the coming election, we take pleasure in reproducing the subjoined letter, which sufficiently disposes of this unfounded rumor : DETROIT, SEPTEMBER 28, 1864.

DEAR SIR: The state of my health has confined me the house for some months, and prevents me from accepting your invitation to attend the meeting this evening at the McClellan Club of the First Ward. But I avail myself of this opportunity to say that I approve the nomination of Gen. McClellan, and shall vote for him at the next Presidential election if able to attend the polls.

Wishing that success may reward your exertions, I am, dear sir, respectfully yours, W. S. BIDDLE, Esq.

LEW. CASS.